

**House of Representatives
State Government
Committee Meeting Schedule - Interim 2004**

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	COMMITTEE	SUBJECT	TYPE
April 21	3-5 PM	Olympia	Full Committee	General Contractor/Construction Manager method of Alternative Public Works Contracting.	Work Session
September 20-21	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	Update on progress of building mapping information system.	Work Session
December 2-3	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	Implementation of the new primary	Work Session
December 2-3	TBA	Olympia	Full Committee	Civil Service Reform -collective bargaining -contracting out -job reclassification	Work Session

Project Title: General Construction/Contract Manager (GCCM) Method of Alternative Public Works Contracting

Project Goal:

Discussion of the pros and cons of the GCCM method of alternative public works contracting and, based on the discussion, provide input for a performance audit of the general contractor/construction manager contracting alternative.

Project Description:

Legislation enacted in 1994 authorizes several state agencies and local governments to use alternative contracting procedures to award certain public works contracts. One of these alternative procedures is the GCCM procedure. The GCCM procedure is a multi-step competitive process to award a contract to a single firm to provide services during the design phase, as well as to act as both the construction manager and general contractor during the construction phase. Under this procedure, the contractor guarantees the project budget.

Alternative public works procedures were authorized for use until 2001, and in 2000, extended until 2007. At the time the legislation was enacted, a temporary independent oversight committee was created to review alternative bidding procedures and recommend changes in contracting laws to the Legislature. The oversight committee was disbanded in 2001.

The purpose of the work session is to have a discussion on the pros and cons of GCCM contracting and to provide suggestions for audit questions to the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee (JLARC) in their upcoming performance audit of GCCM contracting. This will allow JLARC to design the study in a way that will provide the Committee with the needed analytical framework in which to base future policy decisions.

Number & Type of Meetings: 1 work session

Completion Date: May 2004

Staff Assigned: Katie Blinn and Marsha Reilly

Project Title: Building Mapping Information System

Project Goal:

Update the committee on the progress of the building mapping information system for emergency management purposes.

Project Description:

In 2001, HB 1838 was introduced and required the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC) to determine the feasibility and cost of mapping all K-12 schools within the state. The bill included the creation of a centralized database for school building layouts and provided for information sharing between the schools and emergency response teams. The bill did not pass the Legislature; however, \$450,000 was provided in the operating budget in the public safety and education account solely for grants to be distributed by WASPC to implement school mapping, or electronic pre-incident plans, for K-12 schools.

In 2003, ESHB 1218 was passed and authorized the WASPC to create and operate a statewide first responder building mapping information system. The ultimate goal is to have mapping information for all state and local government owned buildings entered into a data base that is available to all state, local, federal, and tribal law enforcement agencies, along with the Military Department and fire departments. The mapping of buildings is contingent upon funding provided by WASPC through federal funds and grants. No state funding was provided for this purpose. However, the capital budget allocated \$4,800,000 to the Criminal Justice Training Commission solely for the WASPC "to conduct a school mapping and security project."

Concerns have been raised about the database system employed by WASPC and on the progress of the mapping project outlined under HB 1218. While the funding allocated thus far has been for school mapping, there are presumed overlaps in the projects in terms of the database and mapping system. The work session will provide the committee with an update on the progress of the projects, information on the development of the database and mapping system, and clarification of funding issues.

Number & Type of Meetings: 1 work session

Completion Date: September 2004

Staff Assigned: Katie Blinn and Marsha Reilly

Project Title: Implementation of the New Primary.

Project Goal:

Provide the committee with an update on the new primary.

Project Description:

In July 2000, the three major political parties in Washington sued the Washington Secretary of State, seeking a permanent injunction prohibiting the Secretary of State from conducting any future partisan primaries under the blanket system. In September 2003, the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals ruled Washington's blanket primary unconstitutional.

The final version of ESB 6453, following a partial veto by the Governor, creates a new primary in which voters must temporarily affiliate with one of the major political parties and then only vote for candidates of that party. There may be litigation prior to the September 2004 primary over the final injunction for the blanket primary, the Governor's partial veto of ESB 6453, and the possibility of a referendum on the new system. There is also a possibility that another form of primary election will be the subject of an initiative.

The purpose of the work session is to brief the committee on the outcome of any litigation or ballot measures, and to review the public's response to the new system.

Number & Type of Meetings: 1 work session

Completion Date: December 2004

Staff Assigned: Katie Blinn and Marsha Reilly

Project Title: Civil Service Reform

Project Goal:

Provide the Committee with an update on the new job classification system, contracting out, and collective bargaining.

Project Description:

In 2002, the Civil Service Reform Act (SHB 1268) was enacted. The major components of the act call for: 1) restructuring the state civil service system, 2) allowing agencies and institutions of higher education to contract out for services, including services traditionally and historically provided by state employees, and 3) expanding collective bargaining for state employees to include wages, hours, and other terms and conditions of employment. The restructuring of the state civil service system included a review of the current classification system and adoption of new classifications by March 15, 2004, with the new classification system implemented by January 1, 2005. Effective July 1, 2004, the Public Employment Relations Commission will begin the administration of collective bargaining.

The work session will consist of an overview of the new job classification system, an update of contracting out, and a report of progress to date on collective bargaining. The State Government Committee will coordinate its review of the Act with the review of the new collective bargaining system being conducted by the Commerce & Labor Committee.

Number & Type of Meetings: 1 work session

Completion Date: December 2004

Staff Assigned: Katie Blinn and Marsha Reilly

STAFF RESEARCH PROJECTS

Project Title: Agency Rulemaking

Project Goal:

Brief the committee on background, history and mechanics of agency rulemaking.

Project Description:

Agency rulemaking is a complicated process, particularly the process for adopting "significant legislative rules". During the last biennium, 25 bills relating to agency rulemaking were introduced and assigned to the State Government Committee. These bills generally focused on changing the rule adoption process for significant legislative rules. The purpose of this project is to give State Government Committee members a better understanding of the rule adoption process. Committee staff will prepare educational materials on agency rulemaking for committee members and will work with the Office of Regulatory Assistance to set up a work session for early next year.

Number & Type of Meetings: 0

Completion Date: December 2004

Staff Assigned: Marsha Reilly

Project Title: Public Disclosure Reporting

Project Goal:

Review dollar limits of the Fair Campaign Practices Act.

Project Description:

The Fair Campaign Practices Act was enacted following passage of Initiative 134 in 1992. The initiative imposed campaign contribution limits on elections for state office, further regulated independent expenditures, restricted the use of public funds for political purposes, and required public officials to report gifts received in excess of \$50. Many of the dollar limitations set forth in the initiative are subject to an "inflation factor" and therefore have increased at the rate of inflation. Committee staff will research which dollar figures in the Act are subject to inflation, and which ones are static and when and how often the static dollar limits have been changed since the initiative was passed. Staff will summarize findings in a report to the Committee and the Committee will determine if any of these dollar limitations need to be raised.

Number & Type of Meetings: 0

Completion Date: December 2004

Staff Assigned: Katie Blinn
